

Lion killer puts down stick for God

By Robert O'Brien
ILMAMEN, Kenya (BP)—Kiriswa Nairrotial, killer of many lions, lived in Kenya's arid bush for more than a century before the aged Masai "put down the stick" for God.
The honored Mzee (elder) "put down the stick"—the Masai way of saying "made a decision"—after hearing about Jesus Christ from his own son sometime between his 103rd and 110th year.
No one knew his exact age when he walked two miles to the Ilmamen Baptist Church to be baptized by Southern Baptist missionary Harold Cummins in February.
The Masai date their age by events. The old man remembers being a boy when the first British came to Kenya in 1888. He remembers having passed the stringent qualifications to become a Masai Moran (warrior) in his mid 20s about a year before Nairobi, now Kenya's capital city, existed. It was built in 1899 as a site of railway workshops and became a seat of government in 1905.
In a culture in which old men have special status and influence, his baptism represents a turning point in the slow-growing Masai work of Cummins (Continued on page 2)



Kiriswa Nairrotial (center), killer of many lions, talks through an interpreter with Harold Cummins (left), the Southern Baptist missionary who baptized him. The old Masai had lived in Kenya's arid bush for more than a century before he "put down the stick" for God—the Masai way of saying "made a decision"—after hearing about Jesus Christ from his son.

"High touch"

SBC broadcast ministries conference explores future

By Greg Warner
ATLANTA (BP)—When Southern Baptists enter the big league of telecommunications next year, they will be greeted by an unparalleled opportunity for evangelism, missions, and education.
That was the consensus of speakers, including four SBC agencies, at the National Conference Broadcast Ministries. The third annual conference was the last before the launch next spring of the American Christian Television System (ACTS) and Baptist TelNet (BTN), Southern Baptist's two satellite networks.
In an opening night session, participants heard Jimmy R. Allen, president of the Radio and Television Commission, Grady C. Cothen, president of the Baptist Sunday School Board, Russell Dilday Jr., president of Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Texas, and William G. Tanner, president of the Home Mission Board, analyze the impact of ACTS and TelNet on their ministries and on the churches they serve.
Allen said ACTS, the over-the-air TV network his agency is designing, will permit local churches to provide the "true localism" intended but never attained by television and cable TV. He said the effort would be "high touch as well as high tech."
Quoting John Nesbitt, author of the book "Megatrends," Allen said Southern Baptists are the only major de-

nomination in a position to take advantage of new television technology.
Cothen said the Sunday School Board is planning Baptist TelNet as an internal communications network in churches, and is not interested in establishing an electronic denomination, but in undergirding churches.
"This is not a new program," he said of the TelNet effort, "but a new methodology to help you. Its purpose is to focus on the needs of churches, not to by-pass churches."
The telecommunications ministries of Southern Baptists will impact their seminaries in at least two ways, Dilday said. Curriculum content will be broadened to include technical and theological training of ministers of media for work in SBC churches, he said. While there are already 50 full-time media ministers in Southern Baptist churches, Dilday predicted there will be 500 in the next five years. He noted Southwestern Seminary has established the Center for Christian Communication Studies to provide this training.
Teaching methodologies also will be affected, Dilday said. He indicated the seminaries already are teaching extension courses through use of video and teleconference.
Tanner said the ACTS network will be particularly helpful to the Home Mission Board in reaching America's large cities, where Southern Baptist are often not well known. ACTS will

of homes and complete coverage of give Baptists instant access to millions metropolitan areas.
"The reason we are dying in cities is because we are not getting the priority prospects," he said. "What we need is presence."
Five hundred people participated in the three-day training meeting, sponsored by the RTVC, Sunday School Board and Southwestern Seminary. It is considered the second largest annual gathering of Christians involved in broadcast ministries, surpassed only by the interdenominational National Religious Broadcasters.
One Southern Baptist media effort already in place, the Video Tape Service, also was showcased. Coordinator Doug Day, formerly minister of education at First Church, Starkville, said VTS will fill in the gap when TelNet is not feasible for some churches, providing teaching, training, and inspirational video tapes through state conventions.
(Warner writes for the Radio Television Commission.)

Committee on Boards report released early as requested

By Dan Martin
NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—The 1983 report of the Southern Baptist Convention Committee on Boards was released May 4 by Charles Stanley of Atlanta, committee chairman.
The report includes 224 nominations to the 20 SBC boards of trustees. Included are 116 renominations, 82 nominations of replacements for persons rotating off boards, three bumps—persons eligible for a second term who were not renominated—and replacements for 12 persons who moved, three who declined further service, two who resigned, and two who died.
The release during the first week of May—five weeks in advance of the 1983 annual session of the SBC in Pittsburgh—follows through on a request made by SBC President James T. Draper Jr., Pastor of First Baptist Church of Euless, Texas, that the report be released far enough in advance for messengers to the annual meeting to be able to study the nominees.
All of the persons nominated must be voted on by messengers to the annual meeting.
In releasing the report, Stanley, pastor of First Baptist Church of Atlanta, asked that a three paragraph statement accompany it:
"We have chosen to release the committee's nominations on May 4, 1983, preceding the convening of the annual convention in Pittsburgh.
"This committee is pleased to submit these nominations after many hours of prayerful consideration. Rather than subject any nominee to personal embarrassment or public criticism the committee, desiring to be fair and preserve order within the convention meeting, requests any person desiring to challenge the committee's nomination submit a formal written challenge, complete with specific documentation regarding any person in question.
"Such challenges will be studied and reviewed by the committee in a called meeting, June 13, 1983. We recognize that the right to nominate from the floor of the convention is still in order. But in light of this advance notification, the committee would appreciate all challenges to take place before the committee in special session."
Stanley requested challenges be mailed to him at First Baptist Church,

The

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May 29 is prayer day in Mississippi for SBC

May 29 is the Sunday suggested for Mississippi Baptists to begin a concentrated prayer effort for the Southern Baptist Convention meeting in Pittsburgh in June, according to Earl Craig, Mississippi prayer coordinator.
Craig, pastor of Jackson's First Baptist Church, was named by John Sullivan, first vice-president of the SBC, to coordinate Mississippi's contributions of prayer. Each state convention is making similar plans.
In addition to the May 29 date for special prayer efforts, Mississippi Baptists are being asked to help hold special prayer meetings during ses-

sions of the convention meetings.
Two prayer rooms are being set up in Pittsburgh: one at the convention center and one at the William Penn, the headquarters hotel. Mississippi Baptists, according to Craig, are responsible for making sure the prayer room at the William Penn is occupied during two hours of the convention: Tuesday evening, June 14 from 8-9 p.m., and Thursday morning, June 16 from 7-8 a.m.
At the prayer room there will be a prayer agenda, said Craig, with communication from the convention plat-

form for special prayer needs.
Craig said he asked the Mississippi directors of missions to help enlist volunteers for 15-minute segments of the two prayer room hours. "A lot of people have indicated they'll be there," said Craig, who wants to hear from others who plan to be there.
Craig said one director of missions suggested that churches which will have no representation at the convention might wish to hold a special prayer meeting at some time during the convention.
Craig said the idea for special prayer times is a good idea because of the "pulling aside" from convention business and administrative activities. He said he has been in attendance at enough conventions to know that "most of us don't pray much when we're there." So a special prayer time "is a disciplining thing for me."
Craig called the prayer efforts "a barometer" for the convention. What is important, he said, is "not how smooth the convention goes, but how much we use the prayer room." If 6,000 people showed up at the prayer room sometime during the convention, he said, "that's significant."

Tuition tax credit foes pledge battle in Senate

By Larry Chesser
WASHINGTON (BP)—Senate opponents of President Reagan's tuition tax credit proposal served notice the measure will face more than token opposition in committee and on the Senate floor, should it get that far.
During a Senate Finance Committee hearing on the bill (S. 528), panel members David L. Boren, D-Okla., and John H. Chafee, R-R.I., repeatedly voiced their opposition and signaled their intention to offer numerous amendments and mount a filibuster against the measure if it reaches the Senate floor.
Finance Committee Chairman Robert J. Dole, R-Kan., who pieced together a fragile coalition of tuition tax credit supporters late in the last congress to move a modified version of the Reagan plan out of committee, recognized the controversial nature of the proposal in his opening statement. "Both proponents and opponents of tuition tax credit legislation have strongly-felt views on all of the critical issues this proposed legislation raises," Dole said.
Long-time tuition tax credit advocate Bob Packwood, R-Ore., said opposition to the proposal is strong enough it will take more support from President Reagan than plugging it in speeches and news conferences. Citing a certain Senate filibuster, Packwood said Reagan will have to expend the kind of political capital he used to push through his 1981 tax cut to get Senate passage.
Administration witnesses at the hearing defended Reagan's plan to allow parents a deduction of up to \$300 for each elementary and secondary student in private schools when fully operative. Under the proposal, parents with incomes up to \$40,000 would

receive the full credit. It would be phased out for parents with incomes above \$60,000.
Secretary of Education T. H. Bell told the panel the plan would promote educational choice and competition to the benefit of public as well as private schools.
That view was strongly challenged by Chafee who asked for evidence that such competition would improve public education.
James M. Dunn, executive director of the Baptist Joint Committee on Public Affairs, charged the proposal's greatest fault is its failure to meet the public policy test of spending "public money for public purposes."
Citing the recent report by the National Commission on Excellence in Education which underscored shortcomings in the nation's public education system, Dunn warned, "we dare not divert public education dollars, dollars which come from the public for which the public at large has a responsibility. With the education of all children in crisis, we cannot afford the luxury of allowing tax dollars to be misappropriated for private and parochial education."
Beyond their basic opposition to the measure, Boren and Chafee repeatedly contended if Congress elects to establish tuition tax credits, benefiting private schools should be subject to the same federal restrictions and requirements that apply to public schools.
The Reagan proposal requires only that qualifying non-profit schools not discriminate on the basis of race. Boren contended Congress could and should impose other federal requirements on private schools receiving federal funds.
(Chesser writes for the Baptist Joint Committee.)

Associational
Emphasis
week
is
May 16-22



Coalinga church damaged during major earthquake

COALINGA, Calif. (BP)—First Southern Baptist Church in Coalinga, Calif., reported destruction of its fellowship hall but only minor damage to its main auditorium in the devastating earthquake May 2.
Pastor Frank Reuter, said the fellowship hall was knocked off its foundation, had sunk nearly two feet into the ground, had all its windows broken, was "leaning precariously," and was "a danger to be near." The church parsonage "looked as if a tornado had hit it," Reuter said, with everything spilled from the cupboards, taken off the walls, with broken glass and furniture strewn all over the floors.
He had been checking on church members and had not had time to estimate the amount of damage. After

checking with the members, Reuter took his wife and two young children to Stratford, but was back at the church Tuesday morning.
The home of one member who lived directly across the street from the pastor was totaled, as were the homes of some people who had been attending the church, but were not members. Several of the members reported fireplaces knocked out.
Reuter said two women members of the church were on the plaza at the time the earthquake hit but neither of them was injured. Both of them were in shock, but had no physical injuries except a scraped knee on one of the women.
As Reuter completed his telephone reports, his last comment was, "Pray about our new building for us."

What's Inside?

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Editorials

by Don McGregor

The association is missions

The first line of affiliation of churches beyond themselves in an effort to do mission work is the association. The annual observation established to call attention to the ministry of the association is Association Emphasis Week, and for this year that is May 16-22.

Appropriately, the theme for the week this year is "The Association, a Family of Churches." This is an apt description, for indeed the association is not one individual super church but rather a grouping of individual churches just as a family is not one individual super person but a grouping of individual persons. And much as a family nurtures and protects each in-

dividual family member, so also the association helps its individual member churches to have more strength and aggressiveness through cooperative endeavors.

Then as missions are established that need to be helped along during their formative years, the association is available and ready to provide assistance as it is needed.

The purpose of Associational Emphasis Week is to tell Southern Baptists what the function of the association is and how important it is. The hope is that the emphasis week will create an awareness of the association and that it will cause church members

to have an appreciation for the work of the association among Southern Baptists. It is designed to create support for the association's work and cause church members to become involved in it.

Involvement is the greatest need the associations have. As it would be with a family member who failed to see himself as a vital part of the family, so it is with churches that fail to function in their roles as partners in a cooperative endeavor through the association. To whatever extent there are those who do not function well, the program is less effective than it could be.

The associations cannot operate without people. They are not

machines. They are organizations of people. And to say that the church should be involved in the association is really to say that there should be people from any given church who are a part of the association responsibility. This doesn't mean only church staff members. There is plenty of room for involvement by the non-ordained.

And when a person fails to function as he could and as he should in an association program, he is falling short on his commitment to the Great Commission.

The association is the operation of missions work in its most difficult sense—at home.

"Miss America" returns

Mississippians had a treat available recently when one of the state's newly famous daughters came home for a concert. She is Cheryl Prewitt Blackwood, Miss America of 1980. She brought along her husband, Terry Blackwood. He comes from the long line of Blackwood Brothers who are singers.

Cheryl has devoted her life to a Christian ministry of music, and she does very well in her chosen field. I

attended her concert, which was a part of the presentation of the Jackson Christian Police Officers Association. I was struck by her charm and articulation as well as her musical ability. She both sings and plays the piano and does very well with both. Terry, of course, is a seasoned professional and also does very well; but it is Cheryl's show, and he fits into that pattern.

Cheryl is very strong in her personal witness and moves into her testimony without hesitation. Most Mississippi-

pians are familiar with her testimony of the instantaneous lengthening of an accident-shortened leg, and some are skeptical. She neither apologizes nor over-plays that statement. Nor does she shy away from it. She presents it matter of factly as if she expects everyone to believe without question.

She closes her testimony by saying, "You may have come here to see Miss America; but I hope that before you leave, you will know that you've seen Jesus."

She and her husband sing well together, and an a cappella version of "How Great Thou Art" brought a well-deserved standing ovation.

I had not been in her presence before. It was an enjoyable evening. A male quartet, the Kingsmen, and a young group, the Kingsboys, were there and did very well. But the stars of the evening in my estimation were the Blackwoods. I am glad they found occasion to come back to Mississippi.

Guest opinion . . .

"A family of churches"

By Ray Grissett

Mississippi Baptists are asked to consider the local Baptist association during Associational Emphasis Week in order to better understand the importance and the functions of their local association—what it is, what it does, how it works, and how it is supported. It is hoped that this consideration will bring a new awareness and appreciation for associational work and for all who participate in associational ministries.

May 16-22 will be a time when the local association can be promoted. Each association will observe the emphasis as it sees fit as is true with the local church, but we hope that at least

part of the emphasis will be the recognition of and expression of appreciation to the local director of missions for the services he is rendering to the churches and to the people of those churches. Sunday, May 22, the local churches will observe Associational Emphasis Sunday in an effort to call attention to the ministries of their local association as well as to church members who are engaged in associational leadership, training, development, and ministry.

The theme for this year's Associational Emphasis is "The Association: A Family of Churches." This theme is foundational for the Southern Baptist association as well as for local

Mississippi associations. As the denominational unit geographically closest to the church, the association is, in a very real sense, a family. While the church can be considered the "nuclear family," the association is, in effect, the "extended family." While family has different meanings for different people, the one underlying foundation for any family is kinship. This is especially true for Baptist associations. Each association is undergirded by a spiritual kinship. This heritage provides the impetus for the family not only to stay together, but also to minister and work together, to be on mission together. Various characteristics are evidenced in a particular association. These characteristics include fellowship—family reunion; diversity—family portraits; mutual love and support—family circle; working together—family affair; value of each member—all in the family; new work—in the family way.

Because Mississippi has 76 associations, there are 76 unique and distinct families, each with a different way of emphasizing the one truth that makes each association a family—spiritual kinship. It is hoped that each Mississippi Baptist will join with his "family" in this special emphasis.

Ray Grissett is associational administrative consultant for the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

Brotherhood Commission, SBC dedicates conference center

By Mike Livingston

MEMPHIS, Tenn. (BP)—Speaking in the Brotherhood Commission's recently completed Glendon McCullough Conference Center, President James H. Smith opened the commission's spring trustee meeting calling for new goals in enrollment, curriculum and training.

During the three-day, semi-annual meeting, the conference center was dedicated to Smith's predecessor, Glendon McCullough, a 1983-84 budget was okayed, and the formation and by-laws of a Fellowship of Baptist Men was approved.

Praising McCullough for his vision of a national center where men could be trained in missions, Smith said, "We will now be able to more effectively work toward our goals in training by developing the skills of church, associational, state, and SBC Brotherhood leaders."

Construction of the center and other refurbishing of the commission's headquarters, totaling more than \$300,000, would be completed without incurring any indebtedness.

An overflow audience packed the conference center for dedication services. People from all segments of Southern Baptist life, including McCullough's widow, Marjorie, M. Wendell Belew of the Home Mission Board, John Dunaway of the SBC

Executive Committee, and June Whitlow of the Woman's Missionary Union participated in the dedication.

In other business, the commission approved the by-laws of the Fellowship of Baptist Men which will function as part of the Brotherhood Commission. The fellowship will elect its own officers and will work to identify avenues of missions involvement for laymen.

The fellowship is a result of several years' study of the Brotherhood Commission on how to involve more laymen in SBC activities. The study was initiated by a group of laymen who were concerned laymen were not as involved in SBC life as they could be. The fellowship will attempt to complement, not duplicate, present Baptist Men's work while encouraging laymen to become more involved in missions.

The trustees also approved a \$2.6 million budget for 1983-84 and heard an update on the Brotherhood Commission's effort to enlist laymen to participate in an evangelistic crusade planning for Pennsylvania prior to the SBC annual meeting in Pittsburgh.

Douglas Beggs, director of Baptist Men and coordinator for enlisting crusade volunteers, reported 28 teams of 40 volunteers already have been formed. He said 10 additional team leaders have been listed and efforts are continuing to enlist more volunteers.

(Livingston edits World Mission Journal.)

First national is named church growth consultant

RICHMOND, Va. (BP)—A Paraguayan pastor and convention leader will become Latin America consultant for evangelism and church growth for the Foreign Mission Board upon retirement of the Southern Baptist missionary now serving this area.

Jose Missena, pastor of Villa Morra Baptist Church in Asuncion, Paraguay, and executive secretary of the Latin America Baptist Union, begins work May 1 as consultant-elect. He will be the first National related to Southern Baptist work overseas named to such a post.

Missena will assume full responsibility Jan. 1 after retirement of missionary Roy L. Lyon, regional evangelism and church growth consultant since November 1980.

Charles Bryan, head of overseas operations for the Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board, said Missena will be a part of the Latin America field staff and his work will be coordinated by the three Latin America area directors. He will continue to live in Asuncion but will be available to travel throughout Latin America as he assists both missionaries and national bodies in evangelism planning and encouragement of church growth.

Missena will relate on a fraternal basis with the three missionaries who fill evangelism and church growth posts in other parts of the world. Bryan said when he met with area directors for Middle America and the Caribbean, eastern South America and

western South America to discuss a successor to Lyon, they decided it was the time for a national to provide these consultant services.

From a number of capable Latin leaders, they settled upon Missena because of his experience in church development, his widespread use as an evangelist in other countries of the region and his ability to inspire and encourage others.

For more than 24 years Missena has been pastor of the influential Villa Morra church, but he had recently shared with his congregation he felt God was leading him into other areas of evangelism at the end of his 25th year there.

Missena, 51, is a native of Paraguay, a Spanish-speaking country, but is fluent in Portuguese and has a working knowledge of English. A graduate of the International Baptist Theological Seminary in Buenos Aires, Argentina, he has served both as president and executive secretary of the Evangelical Baptist Convention of Paraguay and as a board member for Baptist Hospital, Asuncion.

As executive head of the Latin America Baptist Union, he represents his region in relating to the Baptist World Alliance. His wife, Betty, a native of Uruguay, manages the Baptist bookstore in Asuncion and served at one time as president of the Paraguay convention. The Missenas have three grown children.

Lion killer puts down stick for God

(Continued from page 1)

and his wife, Betty. It's one of two recent "cracks" in the wall between the two missionaries and the fiercely independent Masai. Not long after the old man put down his stick for God, Masai leaders in nearby Osarai, with whom the Cummins have been in contact for four years, put down their sticks in favor of building a church in their area.

The new church will become the fourth the Cummins have started among the nine contact points they have developed with the cowering Masai since they began working with them in 1975. By contrast, they have launched more than 90 churches among the Kamba people since 1971.

They believe the conversion of the old Masai will greatly influence other Masai men as they sit around the evening fires and palaver (talk) in the Masai way. Sitting proudly erect, the old man shows them scars from combat with lions. He tells them not only of the many lions he killed as a young Moran, but also of his recent life-changing experience with Jesus Christ. He tells them he has led all in his Boma (homestead of several extended families) to Christ.

The young men, who respect the wisdom of his years, hear him say they should stop preventing their wives and children from attending the Baptist church.

"I also tell them that Jesus Christ is not just for women and children but for men, too," said the old man, renamed Paul Kiriswa after his baptism. "I tell them that Jesus can save old men, not just young men."

When a Masai makes a decision for Christ, says Cummins, it's a "multi-individual decision."

A particularly old Mzee spoke up. "We knew about God from the beginning, but we did not know about Jesus Christ."

By the time Cummins drove away, after sharing a meal of goat meat and roasted corn, the leaders at Osarai had promised a 60-acre tract on which to build a church and school. They also hoped, they said, something could be done to develop a water supply there to help their families survive.

Cummins felt happy over the decision but frustrated at the lack of missionary personnel to follow up on growing opportunities among the Masai and continuing development and community work such as agricultural evangelism.

(O'Brien is a missionary in Kenya.)

Faces And Places

By Anne Washburn McWilliams

Hickory Flat, Holly Springs

Eura Lannom announced her retirement recently, after 40 years on the staff of the Tennessee paper, Baptist and Reflector. Next week I'll mark 30 years with the BR. If I stick around, I might pass Eura's record.

Retirement is on my mind this week. I think, since my husband retired April 30, at age 56, from Glass Containers, Inc., at Flowood, after 32 years there. That company allows its employees to retire after 30 years of service. I must admit I'm a bit envious of W.D.—not of his arthritic back problems which caused him to decide to retire now—but because of all that beautiful block of free time! (It was great last week, though, finding supper cooked when I got home every night.)

Two Mississippi places I went in late April were especially delightful.

On April 22 I went to Hickory Flat, in north Mississippi, to interview E. E. Autry and Emma Hudspeth and Lola Autry. I'll be writing more about them later. Lola lives in the Holly Springs National Forest, between Hickory Flat and Ashland, near the Tiptah River. She calls her place Whippoorwill Valley. And walking down a mountainside past rooster violets at sundown, I heard the whippoorwill.

On April 23, I went swimming with Pattie Dent, the state WMU president, in Holly Springs. At least I called it swimming, for it rained, like in the days of Noah. While Lola, Joan Peterson, and I devoured the good lunch Pattie had prepared, we reminisced about our volunteer mission, along with Donna Durr, in Argentina last fall. That was the first time I'd visited Pattie's beautiful house, or met her cat, Lester. Her favorite color, turquoise, accents nearly every room. My favorite of these is her tie-dyed tablecloth from Liberia. (Her son, Bob, was a missionary journeyman in Liberia. Her son, Terry, will go this summer to South Africa, to begin a term as missionary journeyman; and her son, Don, and his wife, Ann, are to be appointed May 24 by the Foreign Mission Board as missionaries to Singapore.)

Besides WMU, another of Pattie's interests is the Garden Club. That

weekend was Pilgrimage time in Holly Springs, and Pattie showed us through nine old homes. And to think I had been led to believe that all the South's splendor was gone with the wind! Not so. There's quite a bit of it left in Holly Springs, as well as Mississippi hospitality. It is said that U.S. Grant's wife liked the town so much she asked her husband not to burn it. For whatever reason, he didn't. And there's more charm in a preserved city, than in a restored one.

The story goes that Holly Springs is named for nearby Spring Hollow, once a crossroads of Indian trails where travelers stopped to rest and bathe in sparkling medicinal springs surrounded by holly trees.

We met the queen of the Pilgrimage, Pamela Kloha, at Montrose, site of a statewide arboretum. At the Magnolias, home of Gladys Slayden, former Marshall County representative, four terms in the legislature, we got a personal invitation from the owner to stop in the kitchen for refreshments. Besides these, we saw Rutledge, Hamilton Place, Greenwood, Cedarhurst, the Crump Place, Dunvegan, and Wakefield, all built between 1830 and 1860, and furnished with heirlooms.

Pink and white dogwoods in full dress paid no more attention to the rain than we did. It was a day to remember. And an experience I want to repeat.

First church

WINDHOEK, South West Africa—The two Southern Baptist missionary couples in South West Africa saw the country's fifth Baptist church born in mid-February. Forty-six charter members constituted the congregation, an Afrikaans-speaking church mainly made up of Baster (ethnic group) and Colored (mixed race) people in the Khomasdal suburb of Windhoek.

It's the first church of its kind in the country, according to Myrtice Owens, Southern Baptist missionary press representative for South West Africa. Missionaries Charles and Betty Whitson had nurtured the church through difficult times.

CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

First Baptist Church

900 High School Ave.
Columbia, Miss.

May 15, 1983

An invitation is extended to all friends and former members of First Baptist Church, Columbia, MS, to help us celebrate our 100th Anniversary May 15, 1983.

ANNIVERSARY SCHEDULE

- 9:45 *Three Giant Sunday School Rallies
- 10:55 *Morning Worship - Dr. J. Hardee Kennedy
- 12:00 *Church Wide Dinner on the Ground
- 6:00 *Pictures from the Past Special slide presentation
- 7:00 *Special Music Concert with Jerry & Carol Aultman

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SBC Week

Baptist Music Conference sets Pittsburgh meeting

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (BP)—Views of "The Minister of Music as Educator," "Challenges of a Bivocational Music Director" and "Music Drama In The Church" will provide counterpoint to plenty of music at the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Church Music Conference.

The group will hold its 27th meeting at the First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh June 11-13 prior to the annual meeting of the Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh. Pre-conference sessions and an SBC Handbell Festival will be held June 10-12 at the Pittsburgh Convention/Exposition Center.

Mabel Warkentin Sample, professor of music at Westminster College in New Wilmington, Pa., will speak twice on the minister of music as educator; Rick Coleman, minister of music at Redland Baptist Church in Rockville, Md., will discuss challenges of a bivocational music director and Carl Gerbrandt, a professor at Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., will take on music drama in the church.

Other major program features include presentation of the musical drama "A Gift of Song" and a sacred music drama workshop conducted by Gerbrandt; concerts by the handbell choir of First Baptist Church in Gaffney, S.C., the choir of First Baptist Church of Pittsburgh, the sanctuary choir of Park Cities Baptist Church in Dallas, the combined youth choirs of Peters Creek Baptist Church in Library, Pa. and Monroeville Baptist Church in Monroeville, Pa., the Singing Men of North Carolina, organist Robert Sutter and by John and Mary Giger of Dallas.

An instrumental ensemble from Monroeville Baptist Church and Peter's Creek Baptist Church will present a commissioned work to the group; Elaine Brown, director of Singing Cities in Philadelphia, will give two presentations on choral techniques; Mayrene Bobbitt, music director at Florida State University, will present a hymnic monologue; and Quinn Pugh, director of metropolitan missions in New York City, will lead the worship times.

Campus ministers group sets University of Pittsburgh meeting

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (BP)—A list of topics as far ranging as the interests of the college students they work with will be presented to the Association of Southern Baptist Campus Ministers at its annual meeting June 12-13 at the University of Pittsburgh.

Sunday afternoon Sarah Frances Anders, a professor at Louisiana College, will discuss building a "ministry model for the women on our campus" and Sunday night Jimmy R. Allen, president of the SBC Radio-Television Commission will speak on "The Mission Thrust on Campus."

Monday morning Charles Johnson, head of the National Student Minis-

tries section of the Baptist Sunday School Board, will discuss the "Strategy of National Student Ministries" and Monday afternoon the staff of SEEDS, a world hunger ministry of Oakhurst Baptist Church in Atlanta, Ga., will present a world hunger emphasis.

William Pinson Jr., executive secretary-treasurer of the Baptist General Convention of Texas, will be the featured speaker at the association's banquet Monday evening.

All sessions will be in Victoria Hall of the University of Pittsburgh except the banquet which will be in Stephen Foster Memorial Hall on the campus.

Lottie Moon film will premiere in Pittsburgh

PITTSBURGH, Pa. (BP)—Southern Baptists will get their first look at a new Lottie Moon at the Woman's Missionary Union annual meeting in Pittsburgh June 12-13.

The new Foreign Mission Board film, "Journey Home: Lottie Moon of China," will premiere in Pittsburgh's Stanley Theatre at 7:30 p.m. June 13. Sheila Bailey, the actress who plays the missionary in the film, will present a monologue from a different stage of Moon's career at each of the four WMU sessions.

Because seating capacity in the theatre is limited, all seats for the premiere are reserved. Tickets are available at no charge from the national and state WMU offices.

In the film, Lottie Moon reflects on her missionary career from her

childhood in a state room aboard the Manchuria on her final journey home. Through a series of flashbacks she recalls her life in China from the first day she arrived as a vivacious young missionary.

All outdoor filming except the ship scene was done on location in Taipei, Taiwan. The exterior ship scenes were shot in Charleston, S.C. All interior shooting was done on a Nashville sound stage.

The primary release of the 30 minute film will be in videotape, but it also will be released on film. Videotape copies will be sold at the Video Tape Service exhibit at the Southern Baptist Convention in Pittsburgh. Some 16mm films will be made available through Baptist Film Centers.

Senator Helms backs away from jurisdictional dispute

WASHINGTON (BP)—Citing certain "assurances from the White House," Sen. Jesse Helms backed away from offering a series of federal court jurisdiction amendments to bankruptcy legislation passed by the Senate April 27.

The North Carolina Republican had announced earlier he would offer amendments limiting federal court jurisdiction and providing for congressional review of federal judges.

Among them were amendments to remove Supreme Court and lower federal court jurisdiction in school prayer cases and to limit federal court authority to enforce school busing actions.

Another would have established a congressional committee with authority to review the conduct and decisions of federal judges and recommend impeachment when a federal judge's conduct failed to meet a standard of good behavior defined in the amendment.

Church secretaries plan national group

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptist church secretaries, in a move to achieve professional recognition, voted in the Second National Conference for Church Secretaries to move toward a national church secretaries organization.

Membership in the organization likely will include secretaries in local churches, associations, state convention offices, and denominational agencies.

Almost 700 secretaries from 30 states attended the conference at the Southern Baptist Sunday School Board.

An ad hoc committee will bring recommendations on structure, objectives, officers, and meetings within six months.

Elaine Dickson, director of the board's direct sales department, told the secretaries they must risk change even though "Many people prefer the knowns of a miserable existence to the unknowns of another existence because of the risks." By taking risks, secretaries can "change the level of dissatisfaction, be aware of better

conditions and gain knowledge." Other speakers to the Second National Conference for Church Secretaries were Bill Bailey, director of

chaplaincy services at Central Baptist Hospital, Lexington, Ky.; and Franklin Paschall, pastor of First Baptist Church, Nashville.

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 3
Thursday, May 12, 1983

Men who fear God face life fearlessly. Men who do not fear God end up fearing everything.—Richard C. Halverson.



THIS CHOIR MEMBER FAITHFULLY SERVES HER CHURCH —AND YOUR CHURCH, ALSO.

Peggy Highsmith is a faithful member of the sanctuary choir in her Southern Baptist church. Peggy also is a secretary in the Conference Center Division at the Baptist Sunday School Board. As a board employee, she plays an important part in providing the best possible religious education support for your church. Peggy is typical of Sunday School Board employees who are committed to the ministry of the local church—your church and theirs.

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May 16-22, 1983

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Lester Jones Itawamba	Allen Webb Jackson	Kermit Sharp Kemper, Neshoba	Arthur Leslie Lafayette, Marshall	Ray Grissett Lamar	Leon Young Lauderdale, Noxubee	Joel Ray Lebanon	William Smith, III Lee
George Lee Lawrence, Marion, Walthall	Henry Adams Leake	J. Paul Jones Mississippi	Roger Dorsett Monroe	Charles Melton Newton	Ervin Brown Northwest	B. F. Smith Perry	Glen Williams Pike, Franklin
G. E. Jolley Panola	Marvin Lee Pearl River	Wade Allen Pontotoc	Neil Moore Prentiss	Marty Evans, Jr. Quitman	J. C. Renfro Rankin	Glen Schilling Simpson	Billy Ballard Smith
Jerry Gray Riverside, Tallahatchie	Holmes Carlisle Scott	Earl Kelly Executive Secretary-Treasurer Mississippi Baptist Convention Board	Chester Vaughn Program Director Mississippi Baptist Convention Board	Ray Grissett Associational Administrative Consultant	George Lee President, Mississippi Directors of Missions	Lynn Mackey Wayne	Jerry Stevens Winston
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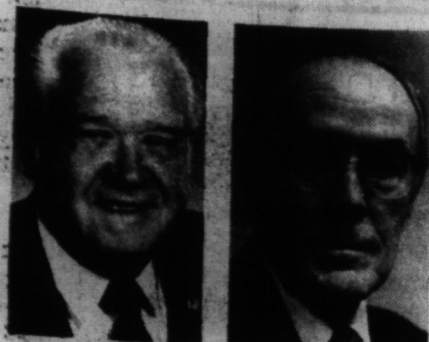
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McCall will speak: MC commencement



Cockroft Germany

John G. McCall, pastor emeritus of the First Church, Vicksburg, will be the featured speaker at the Mississippi College spring commencement scheduled for Sunday, May 15, at 3 p.m. in the A. E. Wood Coliseum on campus.

McCall, a member of the College's board of trustees, served as First Baptist pastor for 30 years until retiring in October, 1982. He will be addressing a class composed of 447 graduates. There are 343 receiving undergraduate degrees, 71 graduate degrees, one the education specialist degree, and 32 the doctor of jurisprudence degree from the School of Law.

Receiving honorary doctor of science degrees from Mississippi College will be William B. Cockroft of Memphis, chairman of the board of United Inns, Inc., and a longtime benefactor of the college, and Archie H. Germany of Clinton, chemistry professor who is retiring after 37 years of service to the college.

The invocation will be given by James A. Hurt of Clinton, recently named associate pastor of the Broadmoor Church, Jackson, while James A. Ruffin, pastor of Poplar Springs

Drive Church, Meridian, will pronounce the benediction.

The commencement weekend gets underway on Saturday with the senior breakfast hosted by the division of student personnel at 8:15 a.m. in the B. C. Rogers Student Center. Other events scheduled for Saturday include graduation rehearsal at 10 a.m. in the coliseum, School of Nursing pinning ceremonies at 11:15 a.m. in Provine Chapel followed by a luncheon at 12:15 p.m. in the Hall of Fame Room of the Student Center; a School of Law luncheon in the Vesper Room of the Student Center at 11:30 a.m.; a reception for the 50-Year Club members at 4 p.m. in Hendrick House, the president's home; and a 50-Year Club Banquet at 6 p.m. in the cafeteria of the Student Center, hosted by the Alumni Association.

Lewis Nobles, president of the college, assisted by various vice-presidents and deans of the several schools, will confer the degrees and present the diplomas.

Germany is a deacon and active member of the First Church, Clinton, serving twice as chairman of the council of deacons and at various times as Sunday School teacher and superintendent. He is a past president of the Clinton Kiwanis Club and served as a Danforth Associate in a program sponsored by the Danforth Foundation for the purpose of encouraging faculty members to work closely with students on a personal basis.

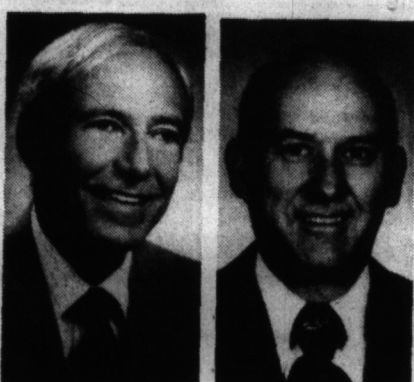
A member of the Bellevue Church, Memphis, Cockroft, a retired dentist, is a former deacon and a former trustee of Southern Seminary in Louisville, Ky. He is also a former trustee of the Southern Baptist Foundation of Nashville, and Union University in Jackson, Tenn.



Poster for Pentecost Sunday

William G. Tanner, president of the Baptist Home Mission Board, receives a first-run print of the Pentecost Sunday May 22, 1983 poster from HMB church extension director Jack Redford (left) and assistant director Jerry Graham (right). The poster illustrates the convention-wide commitment day challenging churches to pledge 3,000 new works by Pentecost Sunday.

Med-dental fellowship will meet at 1st, Jackson



Cannata

McDaniel

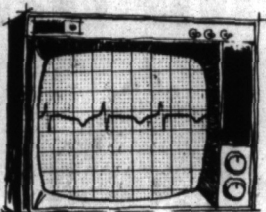
The annual meeting of the Mississippi Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship is May 19, at First Church, Jackson. The fellowship will begin at 6:15 p.m. in the church's parlor with the banquet at 7 p.m. Physicians and dentists plus medical and dentist students from across the state are invited to be a part of this meeting.

Reservations can be made through the Mississippi Baptist Brotherhood department by writing, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205, or phoning 968-3800. The cost of the banquet is \$10 per person.

Sam Cannata, Jr., author of Truth on Trial, and a missionary serving in Sudan will be guest speaker. Major C. McDaniel Jr., music missionary to Taejon, Korea, will present the special music for the evening.

Merrill Moore, director of medical services for the Foreign Mission Board, will give an overview of medical projects and explain how people can become involved. Henry Love, from the National Baptist Medical Dental Fellowship, will share about the national organization and its functions.

The adoption of a constitution and by-laws of the Mississippi chapter is scheduled, along with election of officers.



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Can't stop lying

Thank you for the column in the BAPTIST RECORD. I could never discuss my problem with anyone in person.

I am married to a fine man. We have several children. We are a middle income family. The only problem we have is me. I cannot stop lying.

I want people to look up to me. I want to be special and I want them destroyed. In fact, I don't care who I hurt to get what I want. What is the matter with me? Are all people like me?

Help me. What is wrong with me? I've always been this way, even in early teens.—Can't Stop Lying.

Dear Can't Stop Lying: You are a victim of very low self-esteem. You keep trying to impress people or build yourself up by running down someone else. You desire assurance that you are attractive and wanted by other men. (Letter edited). You say you want others destroyed, but you are bent on destroying yourself. You need to try to figure out why you really dislike yourself so much.

Do you have the will to resolve to tell the truth, beginning now? Forget about the past. When tempted to lie, just stop and either tell the truth or don't say anything. Don't dump past garbage on anyone. Ask God's forgiveness and let that be. Start now believing you are a person of worth in God's sight. He made you to be somebody. Christ thought you were worthy. He died for you. Why settle for what you have been for 25 years? You don't have to stay that way. You can be changed. God can and will help you change if you really want to and ask for his help.

You really do need a well-trained, professional counselor to expedite the process. He/she can be one of God's helpers. As clever as you have been, you can surely figure out some way to get started on the kind of confidential help you need.

Judging from your letter, you no doubt have many talents and an attractive personality. Why not use them for God and constructive purposes and for a happy life style rid of the constant guilt you now carry? As a Sunday School teacher, you know the scriptures that apply. Study them for guidance and practice them for peace.

Inquiries to Intensive Care are welcomed. Readers who feel the need of being in touch with Intensive Care are

encouraged to write. Identities remain confidential. And though the identities of those performing this ministry have been kept confidential to this point, they are well qualified for the service they are rendering. Inquiries should be addressed to Intensive Care, Baptist Record, Box 530, Jackson, MS 39205.—Editor.

Lottie Moon correction

A check for \$3,009 has been received in the business office of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board to replace one that was lost in the mail from First Church, Pearl. In the report of Lottie Moon gifts from Mississippi churches in the April 21 issue of the Baptist Record the Pearl First Church was not listed because the check had not been received.

A church spokesman notified the Convention Board office that the check had been mailed early in January. The church stopped payment on the first check and mailed another one.

4,624 Koreans decide for Christ

SEOUL, South Korea—Southern Baptists worked with Korean Baptists in March to lead 4,624 Koreans to faith in Jesus Christ or special Christian commitment. Sixty-five volunteers from Virginia, Tennessee and several other states spent two weeks sharing the gospel in small churches, assisted by Korean Baptist translators and Southern Baptist missionaries.

SOCIAL STUDIES TEACHER being sought for church-related boarding high school located in mountains of northeastern Georgia. Minor in English would be helpful. Want Christian man or woman who is successful in working with young people. Opens in the fall of 1983. Call or write: Rabun Gap-Nacoochee School, Rabun Gap, GA 30568... 404-746-5736.

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HARRISBURG BAPTIST Church, Tupelo, MS is seeking applicants for part time Youth Ministry Director. Send resume to: Youth Ministry Search Committee, 1800 W. Main St., Tupelo, MS 38801.

Special ed retreat planned

On Friday, May 20, beginning with registration at 4 p.m., and concluding at 4 p.m. Saturday, May 21, a retreat will be held for all special education persons, their parents and teachers at Camp Garaywa in Clinton. Paul Cotten, director of Ellisville State School, will be the conference leader for all parents and teachers.

A picnic will begin the overnight retreat on Friday, followed by a hayride. Also on hand will be the Blue Grass Band of Rankin County. On schedule for Saturday is the Washboard Band from Morrison Heights Church in Clinton. Later in the day the Mustard Seed Handbell Choir, made up of all special education persons under the direction of Mrs. Jean Marks, will perform.

One adult must accompany every three or fewer special education persons. The cost of the retreat is \$16 per person attending, and a registration fee of \$3 per person must be sent to Evelyn George, Church Training Department, Box 530, Jackson, Miss., 39205. This event is planned and promoted by the Church Training Department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board.

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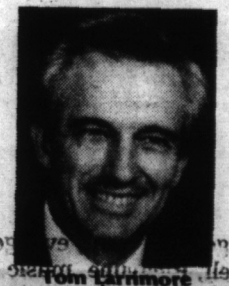
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Closing Date: Review of applicants will begin May 15, 1983, and will continue until position is filled.

Appointment Date: Fall, 1983.

How to Apply: Letters of applicants, transcripts and confidential papers should be directed to:

Dr. John G. Mitchell, Chairman
Drama Search Committee
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92 are graduated from Blue Mountain

Blue Mountain College held its 110th commencement exercises May 8 with 92 candidates for degrees from seven states and one foreign country. The exercises featured two guests, John McBride and Miss Evelyn Gandy.

McBride, director of the Cooperative Missions department of the Mississippi Baptist Convention Board led the baccalaureate service. And Miss Gandy, former lieutenant governor of Mississippi, delivered the commencement address.

First church bonds approved by HMB service corporation

ATLANTA (BP)—Directors of the HMB Service Corporation have approved issuance of bonds worth \$910,000 to four Southern Baptist churches.

The bonds are the first to be issued under the new "Broadway Plan" church bond program administered by the HMB's subsidiary corporation, which serves as broker-dealer for the bonds.

Robert Kilgore, director of the HMB church loans division and president of the HMB Service Corp., noted the HMB's ability to make bonds available "will benefit not only our churches in pioneer areas, but churches throughout the Southern Baptist Convention."

The four churches approved for bond issues are Fairfax Circle Baptist Church, Fairfax, Va.; Calvary Baptist

Church, La Porte, Ind.; Poydras Baptist Church, St. Bernard, La., and Beacon Baptist Church, Hudson, Fla.

The corporation follows a guideline that not more than 35 percent of a church's income be pledged to debts.

The HMB subsidiary consults with individual churches to determine at what interest rate and terms the bonds will be offered. The HMB Service Corp. may opt to buy portions of bond issues for resale, Kilgore said, although it has no obligation to buy back bonds. Once sold, "that will be a matter between the bond holder and the church," he explained. The church, rather than the corporation, must guarantee the bond payment, he added. Citizens and Southern (C&S) National Bank of Atlanta acts as trustee-paying agent for the Broadway Plan.

Committee on Boards . . .

(Continued from page 1)
Nominated to take Cave's place is Coy C. Privette, a temperance organization spokesman from North Kanawha Baptist Church, Kannapolis, N.C. Privette is a former president of the Baptist State Convention of North Carolina and unsuccessful candidate for governor.

Nominated to replace Deaton is Randy Strassburg, a member of Immanuel Baptist Church of Topeka. Zimmerman's successor would be George H. Ballentine, Jr., a member of Central Baptist Church of Greenville.

The report also includes four new positions for the Kentucky Baptist Convention. The KBC receives new seats on the Executive Committee, Foreign Mission Board, Home Mission Board and Baptist Sunday School Board. Since Kentucky went over the 750,000 member mark in the just completed church year, it was entitled to an additional member on each of the four boards.

Mississippians entering, being renominated, or exiting boards and agencies are as follows (none were bumped):

To the Executive Committee: for a second term, Gene Triggs, layman from Yazoo City;

To the Home Mission Board: for a second term, Carl Savell, pastor of Woodville Heights Church, Jackson;

To the Annuity Board: Louis Smith,

pastor of First Church, Canton;

To the Southern Baptist Foundation: O. Q. Quick, a layman from Baton Rouge, and trustee of Golden Gate Seminary, was named to replace Charles Carter, a layman from Jackson, who left the Golden Gate board to become executive vice president of the seminary;

To the Education Commission: renominated was J. Ralph Noonkester, president of William Carey College, Hattiesburg;

To the Brotherhood Commission: renominated will be Norris L. Stampely, a layman from Jackson; and rotating off will be Pat Nowell, pastor of Tunica Church, Tunica;

To the Denominational Calendar Committee: Russell Bush, Jr., a professor at Southwestern Seminary, and a native Mississippian, was nominated to be chairman.

To Southern Seminary: renominated was W. Levon Moore, director of missions for Attala Association.

To Southwestern Seminary: renominated was James M. Keith, pastor of First Church, Gulfport;

To Midwestern Seminary: renominated was Kermit D. McGregor, pastor of Morrison Heights Church, Clinton;

To Golden Gate Seminary: nominated was Thad Hawkins, a layman from First Church, Jackson, replacing Charles Carter, who joins the staff to the seminary.

HMB commissions 85 for mission service

CLARKSTON, Ga. (BP)—Missionaries who work with Hispanics, Koreans, and American Indians, start churches in cities and remote spots "three-and-a-half hours from the nearest K-Mart, and serve as chaplains to Ivy League students as well as Georgia inmates were among 85 commissioned by the Home Mission Board. A Mississippi couple was included.

The dedication service, one of two held each year, took place during Sunday morning worship at Clarkston Baptist Church, which is celebrating its centennial.

Margaret Stevenson, director of the HMB personnel division, told the missionaries, "We have come to dedicate your gifts, to acknowledge your love of Christ and to share your commitment." Irvin Dawson, director of the HMB missionary personnel department, described the missionaries, who serve in 22 states and Canada, as "an arm of this church and every church which supports and prays for home missions."

HMB President William G. Tanner warned "any worthy service is ac-

companied by stinging opposition and bouts of doubt." Describing missionaries as "people who rescue other people," he said, "God didn't call you to be successful but to be faithful. Remember as you reach out to meet needs, you both give of yourself and share the love of Christ."

Several missionaries talked about their call to mission work and the challenges they face. Mona Samples, appointed with her husband, Ted, who pastors the only Southern Baptist Indian church in Wyoming, said "at 34, with four children, it was hard to believe God was really calling me to missions."

Richard Onarecker, director of church extension in Cape Coral, Fla., related his journey from chemical sales to ministry, then from a comfortable pastorate to the risks and rewards of starting new churches. Onarecker is a former Mississippi pastor and a graduate of William Carey College.

Twenty-two persons were commissioned in church extension and 24 in language missions including former Mississippians Eljio and Carmen Camacho-Vasquez of St. Petersburg, Fla., and David and Sherry Lee, Pascagoula. Three missionaries were commissioned for special mission ministries, three couples for metropolitan missions, 10 persons for Christian social ministries, and 16 for rural-urban missions.

West End Church, (Clay) May 15-20; services at 11 a.m. and 7:30 p.m. during week; regular times on Sunday; Billy Joe Pierce, Benton, La., evangelist; Bill Collins, Laurel, music evangelist; Nelson Crozier, pastor.

Pleasant Hill, Richton: May 30-June 3; Joe Strahan, First, Beaumont, evangelist; services at 7:30 p.m. Mon.-Fri.; B. J. Hudson, pastor.

Kreole Avenue Church, Moss Point: May 15-20; John Merck, George County, evangelist; Roy Lang, Calvary, Pascagoula, music leader; services at 7 nightly; dinner on the ground May 15; Dan Hembree, pastor.

Hebron Church, Grenada: May 22 at 7 p.m.; May 23, 24, 25 at 7:30 p.m.; James Fancher, pastor, First, Coffeeville, evangelist; James Bolen, music director.

Utica Baptist Church: May 29-June 3; services noon and 7:30 p.m.; Rick Ingle of Denton, Tex., evangelist; John Ed Snell, pastor.

Derby Baptist Church (Pearl River): May 29-June 1; Perry Neal, Montgomery, Ala., evangelist; Buryl Harrell, Piquette, music evangelist; R. Stefan Eubanks, pastor.

Just for the Record

The 90 voice HIS KIDS CHOIR, under direction of Mrs. Eva Hart, will present the musical, "CELEBRATE LIFE," Sunday night, May 15, at 7 p.m., at First Baptist Church, Jackson. "CELEBRATE LIFE" tells the story of Jesus in simple terms. Matthew, portrayed by Rob Patterson, Mark, by Steve Perry, Luke, by Keith Buchanan, and John, played by Kester Rice, share the faith. Suzanne Higdon and Brenda Varrington are soloists. These young adults are all parts of First Baptist Church in the music ministry. Mrs. Betty Jean Patterson is accompanist; Mrs. Robbie Bell is staging the presentation and is being assisted by Janet McMurray.

The HIS KIDS CHOIR is composed of grades 7-9. Fourteen area junior high schools are represented. There will be no admission charge; the public is invited. The pastor of First Church is Earl Craig. Larry Black is minister of music.



and Karen Hardy, both enrolled at New Orleans Seminary, were featured entertainment for the afternoon.

Cooperative program giving hits record pace for six months

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (BP)—Southern Baptist support of the Cooperative Program continues at record levels but the present pace is behind some budget projections.

As of March 30, halfway through the Southern Baptist Convention fiscal year, the national Cooperative Program had received \$50,825,754. The unified giving program, which is voluntary at all levels, supports the mission and educational programs of the 14.9 million member denomination. This is the first time contributions have passed \$50 million just six months into the fiscal year.

If giving continues at the same rate the last half of the fiscal year, the \$100

Saturday, April 16, the Jones County Baptist Association sponsored "The Anything Goes" youth rally in Mason Park, Laurel. More than 100 area youths participated in Saturday's activities consisting of team competition among the Baptist churches in Jones County, Grades 7-12. The games included such relays as wheelbarrow run, tornado, blind as a bat, boat relay, sneakers, worm relay, obstacle course and pie cathalon. Houston Road Church youths were awarded "Best Spirit" trophy in overall competition. In the junior high division, Highland placed first and Wildwood youths took second. Oakland Grove received first place trophies in the senior high division, with Trinity taking second place honors. Vocalists Scott Sontag

and Karen Hardy, both enrolled at New Orleans Seminary, were featured entertainment for the afternoon.

million basic budget would be surpassed but the \$6 million challenge budget, would fall approximately \$4.2 million short.

Harold C. Bennett, executive secretary-treasurer of the SBC Executive Committee, said: "I am confident Southern Baptists will continue to provide the necessary means to share the saving message of Jesus Christ with the entire world. I know Southern Baptists aren't immune from the economic realities of the day. Yet giving to missions and to training of ministers and missionaries through the Cooperative Program is up almost 80 percent from five years ago—an increase of \$22.6 million since 1977-78."

Homecomings

Pleasant Hill, Richton: homecoming; "dinner on the ground"; May 29; Francis Holder, pastor, Good Hope, speaker; afternoon service to include recognition of former pastors; B. J. Hudson, pastor.

Emmanuel Baptist Church, Jackson: May 15; homecoming; dinner on the grounds; singing in the afternoon; Frank Mixon, pastor, preaching at the 11 a.m. service.

Doty Springs (Attala): homecoming; Sunday, May 15; pastor, Joe Hill, speaker at 11:30 a.m.; special music morning and afternoon; dinner on the grounds.

Mesa Church, Tylertown: May 22; Sunday School at 10 a.m.; homecom-

ing; morning worship at 11; Edgar T. Glover, Smackover, Ark., guest speaker; lunch at the church; singing and fellowship during the afternoon.

Mt. Pisgah Baptist Church, Sandhill: May 29; lunch served after morning service; W. T. Dixon, Jr., pastor.

First, Lambert: homecoming; May 22; services at 10:30 a.m.; lunch at noon on the church grounds; Bryan Abel, guest speaker; Wayne Long, pastor.

Union Baptist Church (Rankin): Sunday, May 15, homecoming; beginning at 10:45 a.m.; Charles Ray Burnham, guest speaker; dinner on the grounds; song service following occurred during school hours.

Thursday, May 12, 1983

BAPTIST RECORD PAGE 5

David Langston, native of Jackson, Miss., has accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Alton, Mo. He was graduated in Dec., 1982, from Southern Seminary, Louisville, Ky. Also he is a graduate of Mississippi College.

Dennis McIntire, minister of music and activities at First Baptist Church, Ferriday, La., has accepted the call to become minister of music at Pinelake Baptist Church, Brandon. He will assume his duties at Pinelake, located at the Ross Barnett Reservoir in Rankin County, on May 30. McIntire is the son of Carl McIntire, a member of the staff of the Clarion-Ledger/Jackson Daily News and a nephew of Russell McIntire, New Orleans area pastor. He is a native of Jackson, and his mother is an employee of the Baptist Book Store in Jackson.

Stan Rushing has accepted the pastorate of First, Leland. He will move from the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Newport, Tenn., effective June 19.

Providence Baptist Church, Grenada County, has welcomed a new pastor, Danny Burton.

Jack Gregory has resigned the pastorate of West Heights Church, Pontotoc, to accept the pastorate of First Church, Poplarville.

Carl Bridgman has resigned as minister of music at Calvary Church, Meridian. He has accepted a similar position in Roanoke, Va. Calvary Church, Otis Seal, pastor, gave a reception May 8 honoring him and his family.

Rusty Holcomb will on June 1 begin serving in a new position as minister of media and youth at First Baptist Church, Cleveland. He will move there from Southwestern Seminary, Fort Worth, Tex.

Bomb goes off
MUSSOORIE, India—A bomb blast in the boys' bathroom at Woodstock School destroyed two doors and five windows. Three children of missionaries in Bangladesh attend the school, located about 135 miles north of Delhi, India. No one was injured and no one was in the room when the blast occurred during school hours.

Dan Morton, who retired from the pastorate of First Church, Indianola, has accepted the call to serve Concord Church of East Cullman Association in Alabama as pastor. He served the church as interim pastor for a year before accepting the call as full-time pastor.

James E. Smith has accepted the pastorate of First Baptist Church, Hollandale. He formerly was executive director of Global Outreach, which has headquarters in Tupelo. He is a graduate of Mississippi College and Southern Seminary. Among his Mississippi pastorates have been First Baptist Church, Mendenhall; Raymond Baptist Church; and First Baptist, Houston.

Bob Gray, minister of education at First Baptist Church, Pascagoula, has resigned to accept a similar position at First Baptist Church, Blytheville, Ark.

Danny Von Kanel has joined the staff of First Baptist Church, Macon, as minister of music and youth. He goes from a similar position at Parkway Baptist Church, Pascagoula. He expects to be graduated this month from New Orleans Seminary, with a master of church music degree.

Bert Harper has accepted the pastorate of the West Jackson Street Baptist Church, Tupelo. He is a Mississippi native and a graduate of Blue Mountain College and has been engaged in graduate studies from Southwestern Seminary at Jackson.

MK helps with shots
MAGURA, Bangladesh—Missionary kid Jamie Young, 7, is helping in a vaccination program among Christian villages in the Magura area of Bangladesh. Presbyterian nurse Carol McLean, who is in charge of the program, lets Jamie hand out vitamins to prevent night blindness to the villagers. Jamie is the daughter of James and Guinevere Young from Mississippi.

THE VILLAGE VIEW

FROM
Baptist Children's Village
P. O. Box 11308 Jackson, MS 39213

Gifts of Honor and Memory Mar. 26 - Apr. 25

A portion of the Village View is allocated each month to a listing of Gifts of Honor and Memory. Many groups and individuals elect to pay tribute to others through this sensitive, meaningful and helpful medium. This feature is hopefully designed to further honor, with taste and respect, those who are and have been special to our special friends.

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Mr. & Mrs. Drew Chandler
Mrs. Jamie Cox Allen
Mr. & Mrs. J. E. Ruth
Mr. & Mrs. W. A. Graham
Beatrice D. Thomas
Mr. & Mrs. Van D. Stone, Jr.
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TEL Sunday School, Magee
Mrs. Chris Antone
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Virginia Armour
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Mr. & Mrs. James Rochester
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Mrs. Earline Keith
Mrs. Annie Blakeney
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Mr. R. J. Blakeney
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Mrs. Margaret Conery
Mrs. Rebecca Adams
Mrs. Arrie Comer
Katie Lynch Bicket
Mrs. Mary Lynch
Charles & Betty Ellerbe
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Randy & Beth Frederick
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Summer holidays

Many friends of Village children appreciate advance notice of our holiday dates. In 1983 boys and girls will be visiting in private homes from July 22 to August 7. Contact Claire Nowlin of our social service department in our Jackson office if you are interested in hosting a child during summer holidays. Write her at Box 11308, Jackson, Miss., 39213, or phone 922-2242.

Devotional

Are your priorities in order?

By Linda Mattox, Rlenzi

Woe to you, teachers of the law and Pharisees, who hypocrites! You are like whitewashed tombs, which look beautiful on the outside but on the inside are full of dead men's bones and everything unclean. In the same way, on the outside you appear to people as righteous but on the inside you are full of hypocrisy and wickedness — (Matt. 23:27-28 NEV).

Was Jesus' message to the Pharisees of his day not just as relevant to this generation? So often we see people today who try to cover their true character by the wearing of good apparel and by living under the pretense of Christianity. In our nation, it is socially acceptable to belong to a local church; therefore, many join a church and proceed with their own goals and desires of this life. What so many fail to realize is that God still looks on the inside rather than upon outward appearances. And we can be sure that he condemns those who live under the false pretense of Christianity today just as Jesus condemned the Pharisees of his day.

Sometimes it is easy to forget that what truly counts in this life is what we accomplish for God and not self. We are bombarded with the idea in our society that we must drive the best car, live in the most comfortable house, and wear only designer fashions. The idea is to be accepted as a part of the "in crowd."

One may achieve fame and fortune in the judgment of our society, but he is still a failure if God does not hold first place. We must remember that God refuses to share first place with anyone or anything. We are either totally committed to him or we are no better than those persons spoken of by Jesus.

Even though Jesus was referring to the unsaved, we as Christians sometimes get caught up in the worldly society in which we live. At times each of us may be guilty of allowing our priorities to get out of order. Have you examined your priorities lately? What place are you giving God in your life?

(Linda Mattox, a vocational counselor at Biggersville High School, is a member of Union Baptist Church, Corinth.)

Maryland gets new editor

LUTHERSVILLE, Md. (BP)—W. Fletcher Allen, associate editor of the South Carolina Baptist Courier for the past 16 years, has been named editor of the Maryland Baptist.

He was elected April 19 by the State Board of Missions of Maryland Baptist Convention, and the announcement was made jointly by

John E. Roberts, editor of the Baptist Courier and Kenneth Lyle, executive director of the Maryland Convention. Allen, 51, will move to Maryland in June.

The Baptist Courier is the official newsmagazine of the South Carolina Baptist Convention. It is published in Greenville and has a circulation of 122,000. Roberts moved immediately to fill the associate editor's position vacated by Allen, promoting assistant editor Donald M. Kirland.

Roberts reported the anticipated changes to the board of trustees of the Courier in their regular meeting April 8, and was given endorsement for his plans.

Allen, a native of Hartsville, S.C., joined the Baptist Courier staff as associate editor Aug. 1, 1966. Previously, he was a public affairs officer for Sonoco Products in Hartsville. Earlier, he spent six years as news director for Furman University and 1966 to 1968 was sports editor of the Florence Morning News.

The Maryland newspaper is published weekly in tabloid format and has 18,000 subscribers.

Southwestern alumni want suggestions

Each year at its annual luncheon during the Mississippi Baptist Convention the alumni of Southwestern Seminary recognize one of its group as the "Distinguished Alumnus of the Year." This person is chosen on the basis of his or her "activity in denominational life and support of Southwestern Seminary, and who has made significant contributions to the Lord's work."

Nominations are now being sought for this recognition. Alumni who wish to offer suggestions of persons worthy of this award may write to David Hall, pastor, First Baptist Church, Box 234, West Point, Miss 39773.

Thomas and Hazel Barron, missionaries to Indonesia, have completed furlough and returned to the field (address: J1. Jen Sudiram 39, Yogyakarta, Indonesia). He was born in Forest, La., and grew up in Richton, Miss. She is from Richton.

Robert and Marsha Ford, missionaries to Scotland, have arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: c/o Maurice Anderson, 17 Stonehaven Rd., Aberdeen AB1 5US, Scotland). He is a native of St. Augustine, Fla. She was born in New Orleans, La., and considers Holly Springs, Miss., her hometown.

Marylu Moore, missionary to Italy, has arrived in the States for furlough (address: 2910 McComas, Kensington Heights, Md. 20795). Daughter of missionaries to Italy, she was born in Washington, D. C., and also lived in Maryland and Italy while growing up. She is a graduate of Blue Mountain College.

Elizabeth Stamps, emeritus Southern Baptist missionary to China and Hawaii, died April 18 in Waycross, Ga. She was 91. She worked with her husband, Dr. F. Stamps, for more than 30 years in China, where they did educational and evangelistic work in Chinkiang, Hwanghsien and Yangchow. In 1952, they transferred to Honolulu, Hawaii, after the communist takeover of China. He was pastor of a church there until they retired in 1955.

The former Elizabeth Belk, she was born in Chatham, Va. Her husband died in December, 1962.

Joy Neal, missionary to Transkei, has arrived on the field to begin her first term of service (address: P. O. Box 32, Umtata, Transkei, Southern Africa). She was born in Meridian, Miss., and grew up in Beaumont, Texas. Before her appointment by the Foreign Mission Board in September 1982, she was administrative assistant to the board's director for Eastern and Southern Africa.

Dennis and Janet Brotherton, missionaries to Korea, are the parents of Ryan Michael, born March 30. They may be addressed at Yeo Eui Do P.O. Box 45, Seoul 150, Korea. Janet was born in Greenville, Miss.

Rodrick and Caroline Conerly, missionaries to Peru, have completed language study and arrived on the field to begin their first term of service (address: Apartado 3177, Lima 100, Peru). He is a native of Osyka, Miss. She was born in Franklinton, La., and considers Osyka, Miss., her hometown.

John M. Purl, Jr., missionary to Ghana, has arrived on the field to begin his first term of service (address: Box 400, Accra, Ghana). A native of Mississippi, he was born in Kosciusko and considers McComb his hometown.

Stanley and Glenna Stamps, missionaries to Honduras, may be addressed at Apartado 51, El Progreso, Honduras. He is a native of Prentiss, Miss., and she is the former Glenna Morgan of Hill County, Texas.

Foreign Board releases \$75,000 for Polish church construction

INDIANAPOLIS (BP)—The Southern Baptist Foreign Mission Board released \$75,000 in its April board meeting to help three Polish Baptist congregations construct church buildings.

Funding of \$25,000 each was approved for Baptists in Katowice, Gdansk, and Elblag. Nearly \$120,000 more was released for seven building projects and two building funds in the Eastern European countries of Hungary, Yugoslavia, East Germany, and Romania.

The three buildings in Poland already have foundations, according to Isam Ballenger, the board's director for Europe and the Middle East. The properties were made available to the Polish Baptist Christian Union by the government on the condition that churches be built.

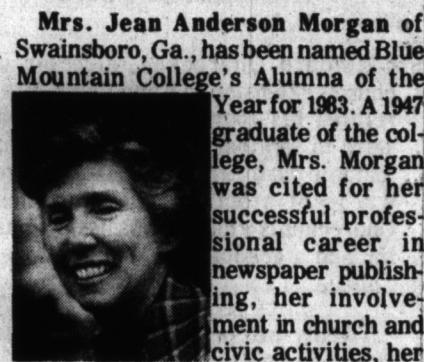
Each congregation hopes it will soon be able to use part of its building for worship. The church at Katowice, which has met for decades in a Lutheran building, will have its own building for the first time. The congregation in Gdansk has long met in an old German Baptist church Ballenger described as a fire trap. At Elblag, the congregation is being forced to vacate an old building.

Two-thirds of the Baptists in Europe live in Eastern European countries. The churches there are vibrant and well-attended, Ballenger explained. Church buildings are important because church functions are not allowed outside the church, he added.

All the allocations for construction were made from the 1982 Lottie Moon Christmas Offering, named for an early Southern Baptist missionary to China.



CHAPTER PRESIDENTS of Midwestern Baptist Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., state alumni associations recently visited the campus for their first annual meeting. Milton Ferguson, seminary president, is shown here visiting with THAD MOORE, a third year divinity student from Grenada, Miss., and Mississippi president JOE YOUNG. Moore is a graduate of Mississippi College. Young is pastor of Paul Baptist Church, Scooby.



Mrs. Jean Anderson Morgan of Swainsboro, Ga., has been named Blue Mountain College's Alumna of the Year for 1983. A 1947 graduate of the college, Mrs. Morgan was cited for her successful professional career in newspaper publishing, her involvement in church and civic activities, her devotion as a wife and homemaker, and her love for and support of Blue Mountain College. Mrs. Morgan was the editor of the family-owned weekly newspaper, the Collierville Herald, from 1947 until 1959. In 1972 she became president of Valley Publishing Company, after having been associated with a chain of newspapers in Washington State since 1960. In 1974 she was named chairman of the Board, a position she held until February, 1982.

Three natives of Mississippi are among 93 graduates to receive degrees during commencement exercises at Midwestern Baptist Theological Seminary, Kansas City, Mo., May 14. Duke McCall, president of the Baptist World Alliance and chancellor of the Southern Baptist Theological Seminary in Louisville, Ky., will deliver the commencement address. Joe Eckman, of Jackson, will receive the master of divinity degree. While in seminary, he was youth director at the Northland Baptist Church in Kansas City. David A. Goode, of Potts Camp, will receive the master of divinity degree. He plans to serve as a pastor. Thad A. Moore, a native of Grenada, will receive the master of divinity degree. He is pastor of Alpha Baptist Church, Laredo, Mo.

William D. Murray, academic dean at Judson College, Marion, Ala., since 1972, plans to step down July 1. Next fall he will greet students as part-time professor of history and political sci-

ence. At one time in his career, he was superintendent of schools in Gillsburg, Miss., and then in Eudora, Miss. His wife, the former Geraldine Wall, is from Osyka, Miss.

Eura Rich Lannom, after serving Tennessee Baptists for 42 years, has announced her retirement. She went to the Tennessee Baptist Convention in 1940, and has been an employee of the Baptist and Reflector for 40 years, including a term as acting editor from August 1974 through October 1976. In addition to acting editor, she has been assistant to the editor, editor's assistant, office secretary, secretary to the circulation manager, and is presently advertising and subscriptions manager.

Former United States Attorney General Griffin B. Bell has been appointed distinguished university professor at Mercer University, Macon, Ga., according to President R. Kirby Godsey. Bell is the first person in the history of the University to hold this newly created position, Godsey said. The former attorney general will lecture periodically in all of the University's schools in both Macon and Atlanta. Bell, a cum laude graduate of Mercer's Walter F. George School of Law, was appointed United States Attorney General in 1977 by then President Jimmy Carter and served until in August 1979.

Paul R. Corts of Shawnee, Okla., was named new president of Wingate College, Wingate, N.C., Apr. 22. He succeeds Thomas E. Corts, his brother, as the college's chief executive officer. Thomas Corts will become president of Samford University, Birmingham, Ala., in the fall. Paul Corts has headed The Corts Company, a fund-raising consultancy, since Jan. 1, 1983. For four and a half years prior to that, he was executive vice-president and chief administrative officer at Oklahoma Baptist University (OBU) in Shawnee.

Bible Book

Solomon turns from God

By Joe H. Tuten, pastor,
Calvary, Jackson
I Kings 11:1-40

The biblical writer has highlighted in chapters 3-10 the noble and good qualities of Solomon's early reign in covenant with God. The early years of Solomon's reign comprise a remarkable record by any measurement. The biblical writer thus far, however, has made only brief allusions to elements within the kingdom that would lead to great difficulty. These included trade alliances with foreign nations which were sealed by intermarriages, forced labor within Israel for extensive building programs, burdensome government, and a compromise of Jehovah worship.

We come in chapter 11 to a more critical interpretation of Solomon's reign in terms of the covenant relationship. This unit of study, based on chapters 11-15, is entitled, "The Kingdom Split Because of Apostasy." The underlying lesson is that one's personal relationship to God and one's faithfulness to God are subject to God's moral and ethical judgment.

Solomon turns from God because of his pagan wives (I Kings 11:1-4). The word "now" in I Kings 11:1 marks a turn. The statement introduces a discussion of dissatisfaction and trouble which began to plague Solomon's reign. Solomon had a large harem composed of pagan wives. Such intermarriages were strictly forbidden by God (I Kings 11:2). Furthermore, the provisions for maintaining such a harem had to be supplied by the people, creating a heavy tax burden. Moreover, Solomon built pagan places of worship for these "many foreign women," and, according to I Kings 11:5, he himself became involved with them in pagan worship. Solomon compromised. He "went not fully after Jehovah as did David his father" (I Kings 11:6). His pagan marriages turned him from God.

God pronounces judgment (I Kings 11:9-13). The prophetic judgment of Solomon is found in I Kings 3:1-15, 9:1-9 and 11:9-13. God had appeared to Solomon on two separate occasions to encourage and strengthen him spiritually with promises and warnings. God wanted to build his kingdom through Solomon. Solomon's compromise and half-hearted commitment did not allow this to happen. God pronounced judgment. "I will surely rend the kingdom from thee, and will give it to thy servant" (I Kings 11:11). It would not happen immediately, but it would happen (I Kings 11:12).

God raises Hadad Of Edom against Solomon (I Kings 11:14-22). Hadad had escaped Edom years earlier during David's military campaign against his country. Joab and a part of David's army had remained in Edom six months for the purpose of destroying the male population. But Hadad and others escaped to Egypt. He was of the royal house and was treated favorably by the Pharaoh, even to the point of being given the sister of the Pharaoh's wife to be his wife. He nevertheless harbored deep resentment over the destruction of his father's Edomite kingdom and waited for a day of revenge. The opportunity came after David's death and the rule shifted to Solomon's hands. He returned to Edom with determination and revenge in his heart. The biblical writer says God raised him up as an adversary against Solomon.

God raises Rezon of Syria against Solomon (I Kings 11:23-25). Rezon was leader of a marauding band who captured Damascus and set up a small kingdom. In time, he gained control of Syria. He was "an adversary of Israel all the days of Solomon" (I Kings 11:25). Edom was on Israel's southeastern border. Syria was on Israel's northeastern border. Hadad and Rezon were thorns in Solomon's side. They were always there and used every opportunity of "doing mischief."

Ahijah prophesies Jeroboam's successful revolt (I Kings 11:26-40). Solomon had appointed a man named Jeroboam as leader of the forced labor used in his building program. Jeroboam was a natural leader and doubtless ambitious. One day an unusual thing happened. Jeroboam met Ahijah, a prophet. The prophet had on a new coat. When he met Jeroboam, he took off his new coat and started tearing it in pieces. He tore it into twelve pieces. While Jeroboam was still startled, Ahijah handed him ten pieces of the coat and told him God was going to take the kingdom out of the hand of Solomon and give Jeroboam rule over ten tribes.

The one tribe in verse 32 was really two tribes, Judah and Benjamin. But the tribe of Benjamin almost had been destroyed earlier by the other tribes (Judges, chapters 19-21) and thereafter was usually counted with Judah as one tribe. The news of what Ahijah had done eventually reached Solomon. He tried to kill Jeroboam, but Jeroboam fled to Egypt. Judgment had been pronounced upon Solomon because he turned from Jehovah God.

Uniform

Riot in Ephesus

By John G. Armistead, pastor,
Calvary, Tupelo
Acts 19:23-41

Very little that is truly worthwhile in life can be accomplished without (in the words of Winston Churchill) "blood, toil, tears, and sweat." So it is with the things of the Kingdom. One of the great lessons from the book of Acts is that the spread of the gospel and the establishment of communities of believers comes about by God's grace and man's willingness to pay the price in terms of pain.

After the charges against Paul at Corinth were dismissed by the proconsul Gallio, Paul remained in that city for a while before traveling on once more. Then his colleagues in faith and occupation, Aquila and Priscilla, accompanied him as he sailed back across the Aegean Sea. He paused briefly at Ephesus, a large seaport city in the Roman Province of Asia, and sailed again for Palestine. After visiting the churches in Jerusalem, Antioch and Galatia, he returned to Ephesus to begin a three year stay and one of his most important ministries (18:18-23). Ephesus represents a great triumph for the grace of God—but it was not won without a great price paid in pain.

I. The great progress of the gospel (19:1-22).

As usual, Paul began his work at the synagogue. After three months fierce opposition from unbelievers forced him to preach elsewhere. The lecture hall of Tyrannus was made available to him and there he taught daily (v. 9). God abundantly blessed the missionary efforts and soon the faith was spreading out from the city into all parts of the province. So effective was the work that Luke could record "all they which lived in Asia heard the word of the Lord, both Jews and Greeks" (v. 10). Paul's opponent Demetrius would charge, "Not alone in Ephesus but almost throughout all Asia this Paul has persuaded and turned away many people" (v. 26).

There are several reasons why God blessed the work in this manner. First, we know of the tireless efforts of Paul. He was "in labors more abundant" (2 Cor. 11:23). Furthermore, he rigorously maintained faithful witness to the apostolic doctrine. From Ephesus he wrote both Corinthian letters. He insists on faithfulness to the apostolic witness (cf., I Cor. 15), which is for us the New Testament. Also, it was a matter of God's timing. Earlier Paul was prohibited by God from preaching in Asia (16:6). Now, however, he is given the go-ahead. Finally, Paul was

II. The great opposition to the gospel (19:23-41).

Paul recognized that at Ephesus God had opened "a great door" of opportunity for the gospel, but there were "many adversaries" (I Cor. 16:9). He felt the threat of constant dangers and likened his opponents to "wild beasts" (I Cor. 15:30-32).

The major opposition focused in this passage is the riot precipitated by Demetrius and the silversmiths. They were angered that the gospel was being so widely accepted that they were losing customers for their miniature silver replicas of the temple of the goddess Artemis. Their business was endangered and they staged a protest, shouting, "Great is Artemis of the Ephesians" (v. 28).

Artemis (Latin, Diana) was the mother-goddess of Asia. The temple of Artemis in Ephesus was one of the seven wonders of the ancient world. An image of Artemis "which fell down from the sky" (v. 35), perhaps a meteorite, was housed in the temple. Ephesus was known as the center for her worship.

Soon the whole city was swept up in the protest and gathered in the city's 25,000 seat theater. There was a great deal of confusion and most of the people did not know what was going on (v. 32). They were, however, stampeded by fear that Artemis was being attacked.

The local unbelieving Jews tried unsuccessfully to disassociate themselves from Paul, and Paul himself tried to go to the theater but was prohibited by friends (vv. 30-34). Finally the chief administrator of the city quieted and dispersed the mob (vv. 34-41).

Whenever the gospel makes an impact upon a community as it did at Ephesus, opposition from false religions and the gods of this world will lash back. To endure the pain of opposition, however, is the price to be paid if God's work is to be successful.

Powhatan Baptist Chapel, Powhatan Point, Ohio; Apr. 18-22; Estus Pirkle, New Albany, evangelist; six professions of faith; Dwight Massengill, pastor. (Pirkle is producer of the movies, "The Burning Hell," "The Believer's Heaven," and "If Footmen Tire You, What Will Horses Do?")

Friendship is like money, easier made than kept.—Samuel Butler.

Life and Work

What cost salvation?

By Beverly V. Tinnin, pastor
First, Meridian
Isaiah 53:3-7, 10-12

Each year when our church elects men to be ordained as deacons I go to a book store and buy a nice New Testament with a good leather binding and with easily readable print on thin but durable paper. In the past five years I have noticed that the price has more than doubled and that it is now very expensive to purchase a well-bound New Testament.

But then I began thinking about the real cost of Bibles. There were men who forsook all to be led by the Holy Spirit to become, its authors. There were those who died in order to preserve the precious canon. Multitudes of devout scholars have spent their lives in preparing texts with the original languages and then translating these so people might read the Word in their own language.

The true cost of our Bible can never be measured in terms of dollars and cents. And in a far greater sense the cost of salvation to God strains our credulity, but we will try to describe something of the price he paid.

A Man of Sorrows (53:3,4)

In an earlier lesson we examined Isaiah's use of "servant." There was a mix involved which sometimes indicated Israel as related to God's mission to the Gentiles, while at other times it is clearly the Messiah to whom he refers. Here it is clear we have a prophecy of the coming of Jesus in the role of a "suffering servant."

I am sure in the trial of Jesus the authorities spoke of the regal qualities of King David's successor and the absence of royal traits in the accused Jesus. He had been beaten, crowned with thorns, spat upon . . . he was indeed "a man of sorrows acquainted with grief" just as Isaiah had prophesied he would be.

A sacrifice on the altar would not be a pretty thing to look upon, but to the one feeling the relief of forgiveness for its sake, it would become the most beautiful thing in the world.

The illustration has frequently been used of the little girl who was ashamed of the looks of her mother's red and swollen hands that had labored to feed, clothe, and provide shelter for the daughter. They were later seen in a different light. They became the most attractive and appreciated of all hands.

The beaten, nail-pierced form of Jesus becomes for the redeemed the most loved and attractive life the world has ever known.

The Lamb of God (5:7)

When Jesus appeared to John in the wilderness while he was preaching, it was revealed to him that this was Messiah, the long awaited one. He used Isaiah's terminology in introducing him to the host of people. He proclaimed, "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sins of the people."

A guide to "Gordon's Calvary" outside Jerusalem explains to the visitor that the hill is an extension of the mount upon which the "dome of the rock" stands. This is also the site of the temples that formerly stood there. This site was selected earlier in Israel's history because it was believed Abram had offered his son to God on the same spot. The son was spared for the sake of a lamb provided by God as a sacrifice. It was apparent to careful students of the Scripture that Isaiah and John the Baptist were indicating that Messiah was a latter day sacrificial offering in behalf of sins of believers.

In John 10, Jesus made it clear that he willingly lay down his life for the people. It was an act of his own volition and no man could force him to do so against his will.

Victory Through his death (10:12)

When Satan did his worst in bringing together the sects and people who crucified Jesus, it resulted in God's greatest and most wonderful deed in behalf of humanity. The early church fathers believed in a "mouse-trap" theory of the atonement. Jesus was the bait and when Satan went for it he had to release his hold on sinful mankind.

Later theologians put together a theory of the atonement that was feudal in concept. God as a great baron was insulted by man's sin and could not look upon the sinner until his honor was satisfied. The good lesser lord (Jesus) "stood in" for man in a deed that resulted in his death but the satisfaction of God's honor. Then, and only then, could God deal with man. It is clear from Isaiah's writing that God initiated the plan of salvation and that "he was in Christ Jesus reconciling man to himself."

God has always suffered for the sins of his people and on the cross we see clearly the pain he bore. God was not suddenly standing aside with offended honor but, as in the parable of the prodigal son, he was longing for the boy to come home so he could forgive and honor him as a member of his own family.

Indeed "Jesus paid it all, all to him I owe. . ."